

TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, including back up information, <u>8 days prior</u> to the requested meeting date. Public Hearing requests must be submitted <u>20 days prior</u> to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION				
Date Submitted: A Submitted by: Fire Chief Brian Leves	April 1, 2023 e Chief Mark DiFronzo & Polic	Date of N	Date of Meeting: April 20, 2023	
Department:	Adae	Time Red	quired: 10 minutes	
Speakers:		Backgrou Supplied	VAC: IXI NA: I I	
CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)				
Appointment:		Recognition/Res Retirement:		
Public Hearing:	\boxtimes	Old Business:		
New Business:		Consent Agenda:		
Nonpublic:		Other:		
TITLE OF ITEM				
Public Hearing – GOFERR Locality Equipment Grant				
Description of Item				
The Town Council will hold a public hearing to authorize the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$54,990.61 received from the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and through the new Hampshire Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) Grant Program, for the purchase of three (3) multi-function portable ventilator units for the Merrimack Fire and Rescue Department, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15.				
REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)				
RSA:	31:95-ь	Warrant Article:		
Charter Article:	8-15	Town Meeting:		
Other:		N/A		
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)				
Projector:		Grant Requireme	ents:	
Easel:		Joint Meeting:		
Special Seating:		Other:		
Laptop:		None:		
CONTACT INFORMATION				
Name:	Chief DiFronzo	Address	432 DW Highway	
Phone Number	603-424-3690	Email Address	mdifronzo@merrimacknh.gov	

LEGAL NOTICE

Town of Merrimack

Public Hearing

Residents of Merrimack are hereby advised that the Town Council will hold a public hearing to authorize the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$54,990.61 received from the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and through the New Hampshire Governor's Office For Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) Grant Program, for the purchase of three (3) multi-function portable ventilator units for the Merrimack Fire Rescue Department, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15. The public hearing will be held on **Thursday, April 20, 2023 at 7:00 PM** in the Matthew Thornton Room located at 8 Baboosic Lake Road in Merrimack.

For Town of Merrimack Use:

Posted: April 10, 2023

To Be Published: April 10, 2023 (Union Leader)

To Be Published: April 14, 2023 (Sunday Select / Merrimack Edition)



MERRIMACK FIRE RESCUE

432 Daniel Webster Highway
Merrimack New Hampshire 03054
603.424.3690 • Fax 603.424.0603

Fire Chief Mark W. DiFronzo

Assistant Fire Chief Richard N. Harris

Assistant Fire Chief Daniel L. Newman

Memo

To: Paul Micali – Town Manager

From: Chief DiFronzo

Re: 2021 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) –

Governor's Office For Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR)

Locality Equipment Purchase Program (LEPP)

Date: April 5, 2023

Under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), the State received a total of \$112 million in Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to distribute to New Hampshire non-metropolitan cities and towns. The Department applied for the State of New Hampshire GOFERR grant Locality Equipment Purchase Program. This program provided support of up to \$50,000 per New Hampshire locality (cities and towns) for purchasing safety and emergency equipment needed as a result of or in response to the health crisis and its negative effects. Among other things, it could include equipment needed in response to personnel shortages related to the health crisis. There was a 10 percent match required if awarded a grant.

All reimbursed costs had to be allowable expenses under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.

Applications for this matching grant program opened October 29, 2021 and were due by June 3, 2022. The equipment had to be acquired by December 31, 2022. If an award was made, approval by the Governor and Council would be required.

The Merrimack Fire-Rescue Department applied for and was awarded the grant and purchased (3) three multi-function portable ventilator units. This put one unit on each of our ambulances. The total cost for the units was \$54,990.61.

These units allow our EMS providers to manage several medical conditions that could compromise a patient's airway. The vent units are capable of effectively delivering correct air volume ventilations to an unconscious patient while also ensuring provider safety. Presently our EMS providers have to manually deliver these ventilations while being directly over the open mouth of a patient. Disease transmission via respiratory droplets is highly probable. Even with proper PPE usage the spread can still occur. By minimizing the time a provider needs to be directly over an open mouth it allows for the HVAC systems in our ambulances to remove those particles. Another benefit to using a ventilator system is the ability to provide consistent volumes of air for the patient's respiratory system. Presently a provider needs to time their ventilation delivery and squeeze what they believe is the correct volume of air into the patients lungs.

This allows for large variances based upon the provider. By using a portable ventilator we remove any subjectivity and insure the patient gets the correct volume of air at the proper interval.

In July of 2022 the Department was notified that we were awarded the grant. In October of 2022 the monies were released by the State.

The equipment was purchased for \$54,990.61 and is currently in use. They have been used on a number of patients with great outcomes.

I would recommend the Town approve the acceptance of this grant award. This equipment has enhanced and improved our abilities to properly deliver ventilations while keeping our EMS providers safer from disease transmission.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mark W. DiFronzo

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Fire Chief

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